

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed February 4, 2008. In the Office Action, claims 1-12 and 14-24 were pending and rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1 and 14 are amended; claims 3 and 4 are cancelled; and the remaining claims are unchanged in the application.

Section Seven of the Office Action indicated that independent claims 1 and 14, among others, were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,584,464 to Warthen in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/01994982 to Kapur et al. (hereinafter Kapur) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0260677 to Malpani et al. (hereinafter Malpani). Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 in order to better distinguish those claims from the art of record. Specifically, amended independent claims 1 and 14 now indicate that the plurality of help query strings are natural language help query strings. Support for this feature can be found, at least, on page 2, lines 9-14. Additionally, independent claims 1 and 14 has been amended to recite that each string is a natural language query relative to a help function of a computer system. Support for this feature can be found on page 1, lines 14-19. Finally, independent claims 1 and 14 have been amended to recite a step of feeding the compressed log back to the compression operation at least once. Support for this feature can be found on page 11, lines 1-5. Applicants respectfully submit that while Warthen may provide a log of linguistic help query strings (questions) such questions are not relative to a help function of a computer system as set forth in amended claim 1. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that Kapur does not provide a feedback operation of the compressed log. Applicants respectfully note that the Office Action, on page 4, indicates paragraph 0036 of Kapur as applying a compression operation to each string. It is noted that in step 500 various query log files are canonicalized to remove duplicates and odd symbols. In step 510, a single consolidated query file is created. Accordingly, multiple query files are merged into the single file, and then multiple occurrences of the same query are included as a single query with a count equal to the total number of occurrences. See ¶0036. Accordingly, a given compressed query log file is not then compressed again as recited in amended independent claims

1 and 14. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 1 and 14 are allowable over Warthen/Kapur/Malpani taken alone or in combination

In conclusion, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 2, 5-12, and 15-24 are allowable as well by virtue of their dependency, either directly or indirectly, from allowable independent claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the entire application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By: 

Christopher R. Christenson, Reg. No. 42,413
900 Second Avenue South, Suite 1400
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

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